GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:354
ANSWERED ON:17.11.2016
Construction of Projects on Mahanadi River by Chhattisgarh
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Odisha has raised certain objections to the Union Government on the projects being constructed by the Government of Chhattisgarh across Mahanadi river in the recent past; (b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/being taken by the Union Government to address the said objections so far;
(c) whether the Government of Chhattisgarh has violated any norms of the Agreement of 1983 signed between the two States;
(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the action taken/ being taken by the Union Government to restore such violated terms and conditions of the said agreement; and
(e) the mechanism developed by the Union Government to ensure adherence to the terms and conditions of the agreement by the States sharing river water or to avoid river disputes across the country along with the other steps taken/being taken by the Government in this direction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a)&(b) The Government of Odisha had raised certain objections over construction of barrages, &reservoir structures taken up by Chhattisgarh. An Inter State meeting was held on 29/07/2016 chaired by Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to MoWR, RD & GR with the Chief Secretaries of the two States, to resolve the issues. Subsequently, a meeting was chaired by Minister MoWR, RD & GR with Chief Ministers of concerned States on 17/09/2016 to resolve water resources issues/Projects in Mahanadi Basin between the two States.
(c) to (e) In the inter-State meeting of 19/09/2016, it was decided to form a Special Committee as well as an Expert Committee, as suggested by Govt. of Odisha. The Ministry constituted two Teams from CWC (one for each State) to visit and list out the water resources project in Odisha and Chhattisgarh those have been constructed or are under construction without the approval of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of MoWR,RD &GR. While relevant information from Chhattisgarh has been received, information from Odisha has not been received.
This Ministry vide letter dated 22.09.2016 has sent the proposed composition of Expert Committee for suggesting measures for monitoring the issues on Mahanadi, Term of Reference were sent to Government of Odisha and Chhattisgarh for their consent. Government of Chhattisgarh has nominated the representative for the Expert Committee. A reminder dated 8.11.2016 was also sent to Government of Odisha, however, the response of Government of Odisha has not been received.
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